SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : I want to draw the attention of the central Government to the two dozen districts of Bihar which are affected by devastating floods resulting in destruction of standing crops on lakhs or acres of land and damage to property with crore of rupees. The homes of the flood affected districts in Bihar are : Sitamarhi, Shivhar, Darbhanga, Madhubani, Samastipur, Supear, Kirhengang, Saharsa, Purnea, Kathar, Khagaria, Agaria, Madhepura and Danapur area of Patna. About four dozen persons have lost their lives in these floods. Last year the Bihar Government have ashed for a grant of Rs.1102 crores to carry out relief operations but the Centre sanctioned only Rs.21 crores last year and even that amount has not been made available to the Bihar Government. This year also the Government made an assessment of the damage and destruction caused by the floods and asked the centre to sanction Rs.51 crores to carry out relief operations. But not a single paise has been made available to the State Government. In the absence of any help from the centre for relief work, last year as well as this year the situation has deteriorated considerably; all the culverts and bridges are damaged and it is not possible to reach the people to give them succour and help.

The Agriculture Minister has made on the sport inspection but no action has been taken so far. The state Government had written to the centre that floods are a recurring feature in Bihar, and the relief grant should always be made available in advance. But no action is being taken.

I would request the Central Government to release the last year's grant immediately and maximum possible funds should be sanctioned to Bihar this year also so that Bihar Government may carry out relief measures in the flood affected districts of Bihar. Besides, the compensation announced by the Centre to the next of kin of those killed in floods should also be provided immediately in order to provide relief and succour to the poor...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can speak only on the subject; otherwise Shri Nawal Kishore Rai will speak now.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : I want to raise in the House the serious issue of floods in Bihar. I had raised this issue sometime back also and in response thereto, the Agriculture Minister had made an aerial survey of the flood affected areas in Bihar and had announced an ex gratia payment of Rs.500 per acre to the farmers of the flood affected areas. The time is rolling by with no help in sight from the Centre on the contrary, the centre is asking the Bihar Government to oversee the relief measures properly.

Last year also Bihar suffered from devastating floods. A memorandum was submitted on behalf of the Bihar Government to the Committee on National calamity fund. Some officials of the union government had visited a Bihar and made an assessment of the damage caused by the floods the amount of Rs. 21 crores sanctioned last year for carrying out road repairs and to provide relief to the people is still pending with the Finance Ministry. The Finance Minister is present in the House and I would request him though you Sir, to release the amount of Rs.2 crores sanctioned last year. If our request is conceded, it would help as to provide relief to the people who suffered loss last year. The compensation of Rs.500 per acre announced this year should also be paid immediately to provide relief and succour to the people...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please listen. We can sit for 10 minutes more beyond 1 P.M. But you must be brief so that maximum number of persons can be covered. If 10 Members speak on the same subject, others are deprived of adequate time to speak.

13.00 hrs.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : I demand a compensation of Rs. 2 lakhs to the dependents of the dead....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The submissions of only those members will go on record who have been permitted by me to speak.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You utilise your time. I am prepared to extend the sitting by 10-15 minutes.

[English]

Nothing else will go on record.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA (Outer Delhi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw Government's attention to a very serious issue. Yesterday, the Prime Minister had made a statement about Delhi in which he revealed that 17 gangs are operating in Delhi indulging in murders, kidnapings and rape. The Union Home Ministry is responsible for maintenance of law and order in Delhi. In view of the fact that the Prime Minister has revealed that 17 gangs are operating in Delhi, I would like to know since when these gangs are operating, the details of the crimes committed by them and what action has been taken by the Home Ministry against them? I would also like to know whether some powers are backing them?

* Not recorded